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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

18 APRIL 2019

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Stockton – Legionnaires' Disease Found in Adjacent Prisons

(U) Legionnaires' disease bacteria that killed one inmate and sickened another is more widespread than expected in a California state prison, officials said citing new test results. Preliminary results received Wednesday found the bacteria in the water supply at a prison medical facility in Stockton and at two neighboring youth correctional facilities, a Corrections Department spokeswoman reported. No subsequent illnesses were reported and the source has not been found. However, officials are now adding shower filters in areas and warning against using unfiltered water throughout three correctional facilities. The bacteria has not been detected in the Stockton city water supply, though the city supplies water to the state facilities.

SOURCE: 17 April 2019, [SF Gate](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Alabama – Dozens of Doctors in Appalachia Charged in Opioid Fraud Bust

(U) Montgomery – Dozens of medical professionals in Appalachia, a region hard-hit by the US opioid crisis, have been charged with writing hundreds of thousands of illegal prescriptions and committing health care fraud. Sixty people, including 31 doctors, were accused of illegally prescribing opioid drugs in exchange for cash and sexual favors in the rural, mountainous region stretching from Pennsylvania and West Virginia to Alabama and Louisiana. The charges were the result of an investigation by the Appalachian Regional Prescription Opioid Strike Force, a joint law enforcement taskforce created in December 2018 to crack down on prescription fraud schemes that have contributed to the deadly drug epidemic. The charges were filed against individuals in seven states: West Virginia, Tennessee, Ohio, Alabama, Kentucky, Louisiana, and Pennsylvania.

SOURCE: 17 April 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Florida – Coast Guard Seizes \$62 Million Worth of Cocaine and Marijuana

(U) Fort Lauderdale – Several tons of cocaine and marijuana that the US Coast Guard (USCG) seized from the international drug pipeline arrived at Port Everglades today. The agency will be offloading about 14,000-pounds of marijuana and 3,660-pounds of cocaine from the Portsmouth, Virginia-based USCG Cutter Bear. The drugs have a combined wholesale value of about \$62.5 million, according to official statement. The cocaine and marijuana represent five separate drug seizures involving two USCG cutters and a US Navy vessel off the coasts of Mexico, as well as Central and South America.

SOURCE: 18 April 2019, [Sun Sentinel](#)

(U) New York – Man Caught Walking into Cathedral with Full Gasoline Cans, Lighter

(U) Manhattan – A 37-year-old man was arrested on Wednesday night after walking into St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City with two full gasoline cans, lighter fluid and lighters, police said. The man entered the Roman Catholic cathedral in midtown Manhattan and was confronted by a security guard. As the man turned to leave, gasoline spilled onto the floor and the guard alerted police officers stationed outside. Officers caught up with the man and he was taken into custody after questioning,

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according to John Miller, the Deputy Commissioner of Intelligence and Counterterrorism for the NYPD. Asked if terrorism was a possible motive in the incident, given worldwide publicity about the Notre Dame fire, Miller said it was “too early to say that, but this is an indicator of something that would be very suspicious.”

SOURCE: 17 April 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) France – EU Parliament Votes to Fine Internet Firms for Not Removing Extremist Content Quickly**

(U) Strasbourg – The European parliament voted on Wednesday to fine firms like Facebook, Google and Twitter up to 4 percent of their turnover if they persistently fail to remove extremist within one hour of being asked to do so by authorities. The measures have been brought into sharper focus since the live streaming on one of Facebook’s platforms of a lone gunman killing 50 people at two New Zealand mosques in March.

SOURCE: 17 April 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Guatemala – Guatemalan Presidential Candidate Arrested in Miami in Drug-Trafficking Plot

(U) Guatemala City – A Guatemalan presidential candidate was arrested in Miami and charged with an elaborate plot to use drug cartel money to win the election and assassinate rivals, two months before voters head to the polls. Mario Estrada, candidate of the center-right National Change Union, who is polling far behind other rivals, is accused by US officials, along with another man Juan Pablo Gonzalez, of seeking between \$10 and \$12 million from Mexico’s powerful Sinaloa Cartel to fund his campaign and transport cocaine into the United States.

SOURCE: 17 April 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Libya – Death Toll Exceeds 200 in Tripoli Fighting

(U) Tripoli – Some 205 people have been killed, including 18 civilians, and 913 wounded in two weeks of fighting near the Libyan capital of Tripoli, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Thursday. Shells slammed into a densely-populated district of Tripoli late on Tuesday, piling misery on civilians from a two-week assault by Libyan commander Khalifa Haftar’s forces to take Libya’s capital from an internationally backed government.

SOURCE: 17 April 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Pakistan – Gunmen Kill 14 after Kidnapping Them from Buses

(U) Gwadar – Unidentified gunmen killed 14 people in southwestern Pakistan after pulling them from several passenger buses, sifting through their identity cards and kidnapping them, a Pakistani official said on Thursday. A Baluch insurgent group claimed responsibility in a statement emailed to reporters and newspaper offices, which described itself as an umbrella body of three Baluch separatist movements in the region. According to the statement, fighters of Baloch Raji Aajoi Saangar carried out the killings, targeting those who were affiliated with the Pakistani Navy and Coast Guard.

SOURCE: 18 April 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Somalia – Four Killed in Car Bomb

(U) Mogadishu – At least four people were killed and 13 others were injured when a car bomb exploded Wednesday on a key Mogadishu road. The car was parked on a road and exploded near the Waberi district police station. The militant group al-Shabaab claimed responsibility. It was the second bombing Wednesday in the Somali capital. Earlier, a regional intelligence official survived an explosion from a device fitted onto his car on the same road. The officer was not in the car when the explosion occurred.

SOURCE: 17 April 2019, [VOA News](#)

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